

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I have to place before you a grievance of the non-official Members. I do not know how many questions were admitted to be answered by the Government. May I request the Secretary to inform us how many questions were admitted for this Session?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—343 questions were received.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—All the questions that were admitted were sent to the Huzur.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Of these only 185 questions came before the House. The first hour is set apart for Questions and Answers. On the first day we had only 30 questions and the question time was over at 11—55; the second day at 11—50; the third day, 11—50; the fourth day 11—55 and to-day about 12—5. So not even half an hour of every day is taken. On an average only 35 questions were answered. To-day we have 54 questions, taking only 35 minutes. So a greater number of questions may be ordered to be answered for the benefit of the non-official Members.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, for the last year and more it has been found possible only to answer questions at the rate of 30 a day. This has been announced by the Ex-President on several occasions in this very Council and I do not think any Member then thought it to be a very low number. Government try to answer as far as possible, but the Members should remember that a good number of these questions come to the Office only a week or 10 days before the meetings begin. Though some of the questions came a month or 25 days earlier, a good number, I do not know the exact number, but surely about a 100, came only within 10 or 12 days; and in these cases it was very difficult to get full answers. This is one of the reasons. More than that, these questions will not lapse either. They will be carried on to the next meeting. All that is possible is being done and will be done. This 185, compared with other meetings, is a very high figure.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, may I correct the Secretary? Under the rules we are to submit the questions 12 clear days before the meeting. The mere fact of admission of these questions shows that they were sent to the office before 12 clear days of the meeting.

President.—It reaches the President's Office before 12 days.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Usually 30 questions were answered in the previous meetings.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The fact is, the replies of the previous meetings were not rather so satisfactory as of this meeting, so

supplementary questions took longer time than at this meeting. We used to take the full one hour and at times more for 30 questions, owing to want of proper answers.

Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Civil Procedure.

President.—We shall now proceed to the next item in the agenda.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Civil Procedure Code as amended by the Select Committee and the Council be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Telephone Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I beg to move that the Cochin Telephone Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Salt Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I again beg to move that the Cochin Salt Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Abkari Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I beg to move that the Cochin Abkari Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Amendments to Standing Orders.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I further beg to move that the Amendments to the Standing Orders, be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest—(cont.)
24. Trichur Play Ground—(cont.)

President.—We shall now begin discussion of resolutions